

Senate Bill No. 319–Senators Daly; and Taylor

CHAPTER.....

AN ACT relating to county fire protection districts; requiring the Washoe County Board of County Commissioners, Reno City Council and Sparks City Council to establish a board to conduct a study relating to the creation of a county fire protection district within certain territory; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

Existing law authorizes contiguous unincorporated territory lying within one or more counties or incorporated territory lying within a consolidated municipality and not included in any other fire protection district to, by petition and election, be formed into a county fire protection district. (NRS 474.010-474.125) Existing law also authorizes a board of county commissioners to, by ordinance, organize unincorporated territory within the county into a county fire protection district. (NRS 474.460) Existing law further authorizes a board of county commissioners in a county whose population is less than 700,000 (currently all counties other than Clark County) to consolidate two or more county fire protection districts within the county under certain circumstances. (NRS 474.533)

Section 15 of this bill requires: (1) the Washoe County Board of County Commissioners, the Reno City Council and the Sparks City Council to establish, by interlocal agreement, a board to study the creation of a county fire protection district to consolidate fire protection services within certain territory within Washoe County, Reno and Sparks; and (2) the board to prepare a written report of the results and any recommendations.

EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Sections 1-14. (Deleted by amendment.)

Sec. 15. 1. The Washoe County Board of County Commissioners shall, by interlocal agreement adopted in accordance with the provisions of NRS 277.080 to 277.180, inclusive, establish a board to study the creation of a county fire protection district to consolidate fire protection services within territory within Washoe County and the Cities of Reno and Sparks. Washoe County and the Cities of Reno and Sparks shall share the costs of the study, the costs of any additional consultants and experts and any other cost necessary to conduct the study.

2. The board established pursuant to subsection 1 must be composed of:



(a) Two members of the Washoe County Board of County Commissioners, appointed by the Washoe County Board of County Commissioners;

(b) Two members of the Reno City Council, appointed by the Reno City Council; and

(c) Two members of the Sparks City Council, appointed by the Sparks City Council.

3. The board shall:

(a) Evaluate the impact a consolidated county fire protection district will have on the response times, preparation and costs of providing fire protection services in Washoe County and the Cities of Reno and Sparks;

(b) Determine any legal mechanisms necessary to consolidate fire service between the County and the Cities;

(c) Determine any assessments necessary to support the district;

(d) Determine and review the amount of any debt and liabilities of each former fire protection district or fire department consolidated into a county fire protection district for the purposes of determining how any such debt and liabilities may be settled or paid;

(e) Evaluate any potential impacts on policies of insurance for fire;

(f) Perform any other acts necessary, proper and convenient to accomplish the purposes of this section; and

(g) Not later than December 31, 2026, prepare a written report for transmission to the Washoe County Board of County Commissioners, Reno City Council and Sparks City Council with the results and recommendations of the board and any recommendations for legislation.

4. A majority of members constitutes a quorum at any meeting. Any action of the board must be approved by a majority of members and at least one member appointed by each participating governing body.

5. The board may contract with other entities to assist the board in carrying out the requirements of this section.

6. The board established pursuant to subsection 1 is a public body and is subject to the requirements set forth in chapter 241 of NRS.

Secs. 15.5 and 16. (Deleted by amendment.)

Sec. 17. The provisions of NRS 354.599 do not apply to any additional expenses of a local government that are related to the provisions of this act.



Sec. 18. 1. This section and sections 15.5 and 17 of this act become effective upon passage and approval.

2. Section 15 of this act becomes effective upon passage and approval and expires by limitation on July 1, 2027.

3. Sections 1 to 14, inclusive, and 16 of this act become effective on July 1, 2027.

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